

Methodology of Interpreting Mutashābih Verses of Qur'ān According to Imam Riḍā (as) Narrations

Ali Nasiri¹ Mohammad Hossein Nasiri² Hamid Karimi³ Mohammad Riḍā Maleki Dizini⁴

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Abstract

The existing of Mutashābih verses which is a fact acknowledged by the Qur'ān itself, because of its substantial allegorical referents, provides a context for incorrect interpretations and intellectual and behavioral ambiguity which from the Qur'ānic aspect by referring them to the Muḥkam verses (decisive verses) as well as referring to Ahl al-Bayt (as), authentic interpretation can be obtained. On the other hand, some interpretative narratives of Imam Riḍā has been devoted to the subject of interpretation of allegorical verses, which by surveying this narration we can extract eight method for obtaining an authentic interpretation, following as: 1. Using rational theorem; 2. Utilizing the procedure of verses; 3. Utilizing from the implications of other verses; 4. Emphasis on the principle of «ایک اعنی و اسمعی یا جاره» (The speaker says something, but his real meaning is something else) ; 5. Citation to recitative revelation; 6. Applying Nabawī and Walawī narrations; 7. Using correct history; 8. The use of Qur'ānic literature.

The author of this article after providing literal and idiomatic concept of the two words “Ta’wīl” and “Mutashābih”, presents samples for the eight methods, driven from Imam Riḍā (as) narrations and discusses about them.

Keywords: Ta’wīl, Mutashābih, Imam Riḍā (as), procedure of verses, recitative revelation, Nabawī narrations, Walawī narrations.

1. Professor, Department of Education, Iran University of Science and Technology (Corresponding Author), dr.alinasiri@gmail.com

2. Seminary student Level 4, specialized center of Imamate of Qom Seminary, Mohhosnasiri@gmail.com

3. Faculty Member, Department of Education, Iran University of Science and Technology, karymi@iust.ac.ir

4. Seminary student Level 4, Mashhad Seminary, m.maleki1447@gmail.com